

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1       Claim 1 (previously amended):     A fluid control device wherein a plurality of lines  
2       each comprise a plurality of fluid controllers arranged at an upper level and a plurality of coupling  
3       members arranged at a lower level, the plurality of lines being arranged in parallel on a base member  
4       and having inlets directed in the same direction, with outlets thereof facing toward the same  
5       direction, the fluid control device being characterized in that the base member has at least one  
6       orthogonal rail extending in a direction orthogonal to the line and each line is mounted on a line  
7       supporting rail, the line supporting rail being mounted on the base member and slidable in a direction  
8       orthogonal to the line along the at least one orthogonal rail.

1       Claim 2 (previously presented):     A fluid control device wherein a plurality of lines each  
2       comprise  
3           a plurality of fluid controllers arranged at an upper level and a plurality of coupling members  
4           arranged at a lower level,  
5           the plurality of lines being arranged in parallel on a base member and having inlets directed  
6           in the same direction, with outlets thereof facing toward the same direction,

**Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005**  
**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522**

7           the fluid control device being characterized in that each line is mounted on a line support  
8 member, the line support member being mounted on the base member and slidable in a direction  
9 orthogonal to the line, wherein

10           the line support member is a rail removably mounted on the base member, and the coupling  
11 members are slidably mounted on the rail, each of the fluid controllers being mounted on two of the  
12 coupling members.

1           Claim 3 (currently amended):           A fluid control device wherein a plurality of lines each  
2 comprise

3           a plurality of fluid controllers arranged at an upper level and a plurality of coupling members  
4 arranged at a lower level,

5           the plurality of lines being arranged in parallel on a base member and having inlets directed  
6 in the same direction, with outlets thereof facing toward the same direction,

7           the fluid control device being characterized in that the base member is provided with tracks  
8 arranged in parallel and corresponding to the respective lines, the coupling members being slidably  
9 mounted on the corresponding track, each of the fluid controllers being mounted on two of the  
10 coupling members, two of the coupling members are not directly connected to each other so that each  
11 coupling member can be fixed at any position of the track independently, and each coupling member  
12 has vertical internally threaded portions formed in the upper wall and each of the fluid controllers  
13 is attached to two of the coupling members by driving screws inserted through the controller into the

Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522

14        internally threaded portion of the coupling member.

1            Claim 4 (currently amended):        A fluid control device wherein a plurality of lines each

2            comprise

3            a plurality of fluid controllers arranged at an upper level and a plurality of coupling members  
4            arranged at a lower level,

5            the plurality of lines being arranged in parallel on a base member and having inlets directed  
6            in the same direction, with outlets thereof facing toward the same direction,

7            the fluid control device being characterized in that the base member is provided with tracks  
8            arranged in parallel and corresponding to the respective lines, the coupling members being slidably  
9            mounted on the corresponding track, each of the fluid controllers being mounted on two of the  
10          coupling members, wherein

11          slide members corresponding to the respective coupling members are provided on the track,  
12          each of the slide members being connected to the corresponding coupling member, two of the  
coupling members are not directly connected to each other so that each coupling member can be  
fixed at any position of the track independently, and each coupling member has vertical internally  
threaded portions formed in the upper wall and each of the fluid controllers is attached to two of the  
coupling members by driving screws inserted through the controller into the internally threaded  
portion of the coupling member.

**Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522**

1       Claim 5 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 3 wherein  
2                  the base member is in the form of a plate, and each of the tracks is provided by a groove in  
3                  an upper surface of the base member.

1       Claim 6 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 5 wherein  
2                  a slide member having an internally threaded portion and provided in the groove is connected  
3                  to the coupling member by a screw member, and an edge portion defining an opening of the groove  
4                  is provided with a portion for preventing the slide member from slipping out of the groove upward.

1       Claim 7 (original):   A fluid control device according to claim 4 wherein  
2                  each of the tracks is provided by a rail removably mounted on the base member.

1       Claim 8 (previously presented):   A fluid control device according to claim 2 or 7 wherein  
2                  the rail is U-shaped in cross section and has inward flanges, and a slide member having an  
3                  internally threaded portion and provided in the rail is connected to the coupling member by a screw  
4                  member.

1       Claim 9 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 6 wherein  
2                  a clearance for inserting a tool therethrough for rotating the screw member is formed between  
3                  each adjacent pair of the fluid controllers.

**Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005**  
**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522**

1           Claim 10 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 8 wherein  
2           the rail is provided with a T-shaped intermediate wall dividing the rail in two widthwise  
3           thereof, and the slide member is divided in two widthwise thereof.

1           Claim 11 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 7 wherein  
2           the rail is U-shaped in cross section and has outward flanges, and the slide member is  
3           provided with rail holding claws engageable with the respective outward flanges of the rail.

1           Claim 12 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 7 wherein  
2           the rail is U-shaped in cross section and has inward flanges, and the slide member is provided  
3           with rail holding claws engageable with the respective inward flanges of the rail.

1           Claim 13 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 11 or 12 wherein  
2           the slide member has an internally threaded portion and is connected to the coupling member  
3           by a screw member.

1           Claim 14 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 11 or 12 wherein  
2           the slide member as positioned in place is fixed to the rail.

**Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005**  
**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522**

1       Claim 15 (original): A fluid control device according to claim 7 wherein  
2                  the rails are connected to one another by a connecting member.

1       Claim 16 (original): A fluid control device according to claim 1 or 3 wherein  
2                  the base member is shaped in the form of a frame by an inlet-side rail, an outlet-side rail and  
3                  connecting members interconnecting the side rails.

1       Claim 17 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 7 wherein  
2                  the slide member is inverted U-shaped, and the slide member has opposite vertical walls  
3                  holding respective opposite outer side walls of the rail and is thereby attached to the rail.

1       Claim 18 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 17 wherein  
2                  the outer side walls of the rail each have a groove extending longitudinally thereof, and the  
3                  slide member is provided on each of its vertical walls with a projection fitting in the groove.

1       Claim 19 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 7 wherein  
2                  the rail has an internally enlarged groove opened upward and extending longitudinally  
3                  thereof, and the slide member comprises  
4                  a plate portion in contact with a lower surface of the coupling member, and a portion  
5                  projecting downward from a lower surface of the plate portion and having a lower end fitted in the

**Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522**

6 internally enlarged groove of the rail.

1 Claim 20 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 7 wherein  
2 the rail has an internally enlarged groove opened upward and extending longitudinally  
3 thereof, and the rail has a groove formed in each of opposite outer side walls thereof and extending  
4 longitudinally thereof.

1 Claim 21 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 7 which has fixed slide  
2 members fixed to the rail with a screw and unfixed movable slide members, and the coupling  
3 member having the fixed slide member is connected to the coupling member having the movable  
4 slide member by the fluid controller, whereby the coupling member having the movable slide  
5 member is prevented from moving.

1 Claim 22 (withdrawn): A fluid control device according to claim 8, wherein  
2 a clearance for inserting a tool therethrough for rotating the screw member is formed between  
3 each adjacent pair of the fluid controllers.

1 Claim 23 (previously presented): The fluid control device according to claim 1, wherein the  
2 line support member comprises two shape members each having a groove and being arranged side  
3 by side, each of the shape members forms the groove between two inward flanges, the groove has

**Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005**  
**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522**

4 a downwardly tapered trapezoidal cross section, and a slide member having a downwardly tapered  
5 trapezoidal cross section and a vertical internally threaded portion is provided in the line support  
6 member and is connected to one of the coupling members by a screw member.

1 Claim 24 (previously presented): The fluid control device according to claim 2, wherein the  
2 rail comprises two shape members each having a groove and being arranged side by side, each of the  
3 shape members forms the groove between two inward flanges, the groove has a downwardly tapered  
4 trapezoidal cross section, and a slide member has a downwardly tapered trapezoidal cross section  
5 and a vertical internally threaded portion is provided in the rail and is connected to one of the  
6 coupling members by a screw member.

1 Claim 25 (previously presented): The fluid control device according to claim 3, wherein each  
2 one of the tracks comprises two shape members each having a groove and being arranged side by  
3 side, each of the shape members forms the groove between two inward flanges, the groove has a  
4 downwardly tapered trapezoidal cross section, and a slide member having a downwardly tapered  
5 trapezoidal cross section and a vertical internally threaded portion is provided in the track and is  
6 connected to one of the coupling members by a screw member.

1 Claim 26 (previously presented): The fluid control device according to claim 4, wherein each  
2 one of the tracks comprises two shape members each having a groove and being arranged side by

**Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005**  
**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522**

3 side, each of the shape members forms the groove between two inward flanges, the groove has a  
4 downwardly tapered trapezoidal cross section, and each of the slide members has a downwardly  
5 tapered trapezoidal cross section and a vertical internally threaded portion and is provided in the  
6 track.

1 Claim 27 (previously presented): The fluid control device according to claim 2, wherein  
2 the slide member has an axial length smaller than end-to-end distance between the inward flanges  
3 of each of the shape members.

1 Claim 28 (previously presented): The fluid control device according to claim 7, wherein  
2 the slide member has an axial length smaller than end-to-end distance between the inward flanges  
3 of each of the shape members.

1 Claim 29 (new): The fluid control device according to claim 1 or 2 wherein a plurality  
2 of lines comprise a spare line and only a line supporting rail is provided for the spare line.

1 Claim 30 (new): A fluid control device according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the device is  
2 assembled by attaching each line supporting rail having coupling members and fluid controllers  
3 mounted thereon to the base member.

**Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005**  
**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522**

1       Claim 31 (new): A fluid control device according to claim 1 or 2 wherein lines are modified  
2       by removing channel connecting means upward as required, then removing the old line to be  
3       modified as mounted on the line supporting rail, slidingly moving the line supporting rails of the  
4       lines not to be modified when so required, mounting on the base member the line supporting rail of  
5       the line to be substituted, further slidingly returning the line supporting rails of the lines not to be  
6       modified to the proper position, and finally installing channel connecting means as required for  
7       modification.

1       Claim 32 (new): A fluid control device according to claim 1 or 2 wherein lines are installed  
2       by removing channel connecting means upward as required, slidingly moving the line supporting  
3       rails of the existing lines as required, mounting on the base member the line supporting rail of the  
4       line to be added, further slidingly returning the line supporting rails of the existing lines to the proper  
5       position, and finally installing channel connecting means as required for addition.

1       Claim 33 (new): A fluid control device according to claim 3 or 4 wherein the fluid controller  
2       can be replaced by one having a different length by removing the fluid controller to be replaced,  
3       moving the coupling member along the line supporting rail to the required position, fixing the  
4       coupling member to the line supporting rail, and mounting the substitute fluid controller on the  
5       coupling members concerned.

**Preliminary Amendment filed December 6, 2005  
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/893,522**

1       Claim 34 (new): A fluid control device according to claim 3 or 4 wherein an additional fluid  
2 controller and an additional coupling member can be installed in the existing line by removing a fluid  
3 controller adjacent to the additional fluid controller, moving the coupling member adjacent to the  
4 additional coupling member along the line supporting rail to the required position, fixing the  
5 additional coupling member to the line supporting rail, and mounting the additional fluid controller  
6 on the coupling members concerned.

\*       \*       \*       \*